Senate File 568 - Reprinted

SENATE FILE 568

BY COMMITTEE ON STATE
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1237)

(As Amended and Passed by the Senate March 17, 2021)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act relating to the conduct of elections, including
- 2 nominations and procedures for proposed amendments to the
- 3 Iowa Constitution, and including effective date provisions.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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- 1 Section 1. Section 39.2, subsection 4, paragraph a, Code
- 2 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 3 a. For a county, in an odd-numbered year, the first Tuesday
- 4 in March, the second Tuesday in September, or the first Tuesday
- 5 after the first Monday in November. For a county, in an
- 6 even-numbered year, the first Tuesday in March, or the second
- 7 Tuesday in September, or the first Tuesday after the first
- 8 Monday in November.
- 9 Sec. 2. Section 39.4, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 10 follows:
- 11 39.4 Proclamation concerning revision of Constitution.
- 12 l. In the years in which the Constitution requires, or at
- 13 other times when the general assembly by law provides for, a
- 14 vote on the question of calling a convention and revising the
- 15 Constitution, the governor shall at least sixty days before the
- 16 general election issue a proclamation directing that at the
- 17 general election there be proposed to the people the following
- 18 question:
- 19 Shall there be a convention to revise the Constitution, and
- 20 propose amendment or amendments to same?
- 21 2. The question proposed pursuant to this section shall be
- 22 considered a public measure for the purposes of sections 49.43
- 23 through 49.47.
- Sec. 3. Section 39.11, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 25 follows:
- 39.11 More than one office prohibited.
- 27 l. Statewide elected officials and members of the general
- 28 assembly shall not hold more than one elective office at a
- 29 time. All other elected officials shall not hold more than
- 30 one elective office at the same level of government at a time.
- 31 This section does not apply to the following offices: county
- 32 agricultural extension council or soil and water conservation
- 33 district commission.
- 34 2. Notwithstanding subsection 1, an elected official may
- 35 hold a second elective office if not more than thirty days

- 1 remain in the term of the first office and the elected official
- 2 did not seek reelection for the first office in the most recent
- 3 election.
- 4 Sec. 4. Section 39.12, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 5 follows:
- 6 39.12 Failure to vacate.
- 7 An elected official who has been elected to another elective
- 8 office to which section 39.11 applies shall choose only one
- 9 office in which to serve unless otherwise permitted pursuant
- 10 to section 39.11, subsection 2. The official shall resign
- 11 from all but one of the offices to which section 39.11 applies
- 12 before the beginning of the term of the office to which the
- 13 person was most recently elected unless otherwise permitted
- 14 pursuant to section 39.11, subsection 2. Failure to submit the
- 15 required resignation will result in a vacancy in all the first
- 16 elective offices office to which the person was elected.
- 17 Sec. 5. Section 43.11, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
- 18 to read as follows:
- 19 1. For an elective county office, in the office of the
- 20 county commissioner not earlier than ninety-two days nor later
- 21 than 5:00 p.m. on the sixty-ninth seventy-fourth day before the
- 22 day fixed for holding the primary election.
- 23 Sec. 6. Section 43.16, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2021,
- 24 is amended to read as follows:
- 25 b. A person who has filed nomination papers with the
- 26 commissioner may withdraw as a candidate not later than the
- 27 sixty-seventh sixty-ninth day before the primary election by
- 28 notifying the commissioner in writing.
- Sec. 7. Section 43.23, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 30 follows:
- 31 43.23 Death or withdrawal of primary candidate.
- 32 l. If a person who has filed nomination papers with the
- 33 state commissioner as a candidate in a primary election dies
- 34 or withdraws up to the seventy-sixth day before the primary
- 35 election, the appropriate convention or central committee of

- 1 that person's political party may designate one additional
- 2 primary election candidate for the nomination that person
- 3 was seeking, if the designation is submitted to the state
- 4 commissioner in writing by 5:00 p.m. on the seventy-first day
- 5 before the date of the primary election and no other person has
- 6 filed as a candidate for the nomination in that election. The
- 7 name of any candidate so submitted shall be included in the
- 8 appropriate certificate or certificates furnished by the state
- 9 commissioner under section 43.22.
- 10 2. If a person who has filed nomination papers with the
- 11 commissioner as a candidate in a primary election dies or
- 12 withdraws up to the sixty-seventh sixty-ninth day before
- 13 the primary election, the appropriate convention or central
- 14 committee of that person's political party may designate one
- 15 additional primary election candidate for the nomination
- 16 that person was seeking, if the designation is submitted to
- 17 the commissioner in writing by 5:00 p.m. on the sixty-third
- 18 sixty-fourth day before the primary election. The name of
- 19 any candidate so submitted shall be placed on the appropriate
- 20 ballot or ballots by the commissioner.
- 21 Sec. 8. Section 43.24, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code 2021,
- 22 is amended to read as follows:
- 23 a. Objections to the legal sufficiency of a nomination
- 24 petition or certificate of nomination filed or issued under
- 25 this chapter or to the eligibility of a candidate may be filed
- 26 in writing by any person who would have the right to vote for
- 27 the candidate for the office in question. Objections relating
- 28 to incorrect or incomplete information for information that is
- 29 required under section 43.14 or 43.18 shall be sustained.
- 30 Sec. 9. Section 43.24, subsection 1, paragraph b,
- 31 subparagraph (2), Code 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 32 (2) Those filed with the commissioner, not less than
- 33 sixty-four sixty-seven days before the date of the election,
- 34 or for certificates of nomination filed under section 43.23,
- 35 not less than sixty-two sixty-three days before the date of the

- 1 election.
- 2 Sec. 10. Section 43.78, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
- 3 to read as follows:
- 4 2. The name of any candidate designated to fill a vacancy
- 5 on the general election ballot in accordance with subsection
- 6 1, paragraph "a", "b", or "c" shall be submitted in writing
- 7 to the state commissioner not later than 5:00 p.m. on the
- 8 seventy-third seventy-sixth day before the date of the general
- 9 election.
- 10 Sec. 11. Section 43.79, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 11 follows:
- 12 43.79 Death of candidate after time for withdrawal.
- 13 The death of a candidate nominated as provided by law for
- 14 any office to be filled at a general election, during the
- 15 period beginning on the eighty-first day before the general
- 16 election, in the case of any candidate whose nomination papers
- 17 were filed with the state commissioner, or beginning on the
- 18 seventy-third seventy-fourth day before the general election,
- 19 in the case of any candidate whose nomination papers were filed
- 20 with the commissioner, and ending on the last day before at
- 21 the time the polls close on the day of the general election
- 22 shall not operate to remove the deceased candidate's name from
- 23 the general election ballot. If the deceased candidate was
- 24 seeking the office of senator or representative in the Congress
- 25 of the United States, governor, attorney general, senator or
- 26 representative in the general assembly or county supervisor,
- 27 section 49.58 shall control. If the deceased candidate was
- 28 seeking any other office, and as a result of the candidate's
- 29 death a vacancy is subsequently found to exist, the vacancy
- 30 shall be filled as provided by chapter 69.
- 31 Sec. 12. Section 44.4, subsection 2, paragraph a,
- 32 subparagraphs (1) and (2), Code 2021, are amended to read as
- 33 follows:
- 34 (1) Those filed with the state commissioner, not less than
- 35 sixty-eight seventy-four days before the first Tuesday after

- 1 the first Monday in June in each even-numbered year, or for
- 2 certificates of nomination filed under subsection 1, paragraph
- 3 b'', not less than seventy-four days before the date of the
- 4 election.
- 5 (2) Those filed with the commissioner, not less than
- 6 sixty-four sixty-seven days before the date of the election
- 7 first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in each
- 8 even-numbered year, except as provided in subparagraph (3).
- 9 Sec. 13. Section 44.6, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 10 follows:
- 11 44.6 Hearing before state commissioner.
- 12 Objections filed with the state commissioner shall be
- 13 considered by the secretary of state and auditor of state and
- 14 attorney general, and a majority decision shall be final; but
- 15 if the objection is to the certificate of nomination of one
- 16 or more of the above named officers, said officer or officers
- 17 so objected to shall not pass upon the same, but their places
- 18 shall be filled, respectively, by the treasurer of state,
- 19 the governor, and the secretary of agriculture. Objections
- 20 relating to incorrect or incomplete information for information
- 21 that is required under section 44.3 shall be sustained.
- Sec. 14. Section 44.7, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 23 follows:
- 24 44.7 Hearing before commissioner.
- 25 Except as otherwise provided in section 44.8, objections
- 26 filed with the commissioner shall be considered by the county
- 27 auditor, county treasurer, and county attorney, and a majority
- 28 decision shall be final. However, if the objection is to the
- 29 certificate of nomination of one or more of the above named
- 30 county officers, the officer or officers objected to shall not
- 31 pass upon the objection, but their places shall be filled,
- 32 respectively, by the chairperson of the board of supervisors,
- 33 the sheriff, and the county recorder. Objections relating to
- 34 incorrect or incomplete information for information that is
- 35 required under section 44.3 shall be sustained.

- 1 Sec. 15. Section 44.8, Code 2021, is amended by adding the 2 following new subsection:
- 3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Objections relating to incorrect or
- 4 incomplete information for information that is required under
- 5 section 44.3 shall be sustained.
- 6 Sec. 16. Section 44.9, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2021, are
- 7 amended to read as follows:
- 8 l. In the office of the state commissioner, at least
- 9 sixty-eight eighty-one days before the date of the election,
- 10 or for withdrawals of nominations filed under section 44.4,
- 11 subsection 1, paragraph "b", at least seventy-six days before
- 12 the date of election.
- 2. In the office of the appropriate commissioner, at least
- 14 sixty-four seventy-four days before the date of the election,
- 15 except as otherwise provided in subsection 6.
- 16 Sec. 17. Section 44.11, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 17 follows:
- 18 44.11 Vacancies filled.
- 19 If a candidate named under this chapter withdraws or dies
- 20 before the deadline established in section 44.9, declines a
- 21 nomination, or dies before election day, or if a certificate of
- 22 nomination is held insufficient or inoperative by the officer
- 23 with whom it is required to be filed, or in case any objection
- 24 made to a certificate of nomination, or to the eligibility
- 25 of any candidate named in the certificate, is sustained by
- 26 the board appointed to determine such questions, the vacancy
- 27 or vacancies may be filled by the convention, or caucus, or
- 28 in such manner as such convention or caucus has previously
- 29 provided. The vacancy or vacancies shall be filled not less
- 30 than seventy-four seventy-six days before the election in
- 31 the case of nominations required to be filed with the state
- 32 commissioner or not less than seventy-one days for nominations
- 33 filed under section 44.4, subsection 1, paragraph "b", not less
- 34 than sixty-four sixty-nine days before the election in the case
- 35 of nominations required to be filed with the commissioner, not

- 1 less than forty-two days before the election in the case of
- 2 nominations required to be filed in the office of the school
- 3 board secretary, and not less than forty-two days before the
- 4 election in the case of nominations required to be filed with
- 5 the commissioner for city elections.
- 6 Sec. 18. Section 48A.30, subsection 1, paragraph a, Code
- 7 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 8 a. The registered voter dies. For the purposes of this
- 9 subsection, the commissioner may accept as evidence of death a
- 10 notice from the state registrar of vital statistics forwarded
- 11 by the state registrar of voters, a notice from the federal
- 12 social security administration, a written statement from a
- 13 person related to the registered voter within the second degree
- 14 of consanguinity or first degree of affinity, an obituary
- 15 in a newspaper or that appears on the internet site of a
- 16 funeral establishment licensed under chapter 156 or by the
- 17 proper authority of another state, a written statement from an
- 18 election official or personal representative of the registered
- 19 voter's estate, or a notice from the county recorder of the
- 20 county where the registered voter died.
- 21 Sec. 19. Section 49.31, subsection 2, paragraph c, Code
- 22 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 23 c. On the general election ballot the names of candidates
- 24 for the nonpartisan offices listed in section 39.21 shall
- 25 be arranged by drawing lots for position. The commissioner
- 26 shall hold the drawing on the first business day following the
- 27 deadline for filing of nomination certificates or petitions
- 28 with the commissioner for the general election pursuant to
- 29 section 44.4 sixty-eighth day prior to the first Tuesday after
- 30 the first Monday in November. If a candidate withdraws, dies,
- 31 or is removed from the ballot after the ballot position of
- 32 names has been determined, such candidate's name shall be
- 33 removed from the ballot, and the order of the remaining names
- 34 shall not be changed.
- 35 Sec. 20. NEW SECTION. 49.42B Form of official ballot —

- 1 candidates for president and vice president.
- When candidates for president and vice president of the
- 3 United States appear on the ballot, the following statement
- 4 shall appear directly above the section of the ballot listing
- 5 such candidates:
- 6 [A ballot cast for the named candidates for president and vice
- 7 president of the United States is considered to be cast for
- 8 the slate of presidential electors nominated by the political
- 9 party, nonparty political organization, or independent
- 10 candidate.]
- 11 Sec. 21. Section 49.43, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
- 12 to read as follows:
- 2. Constitutional amendments and other public measures may
- 14 shall be summarized by the commissioner as provided in sections
- 15 49.44 and 52.25.
- 16 Sec. 22. Section 49.44, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
- 17 to read as follows:
- 18 1. When a proposed constitutional amendment or other public
- 19 measure to be decided by the voters of the entire state is to
- 20 be voted upon, the state commissioner shall prepare a written
- 21 summary of the amendment or measure including the number of
- 22 the amendment or statewide public measure assigned by the
- 23 state commissioner. The summary shall be printed immediately
- 24 preceding the text of the proposed amendment or measure on the
- 25 paper ballot or optical scan ballot referred to in section
- 26 49.43. If the complete text of the proposed amendment or
- 27 public measure will not fit on the ballot it shall be posted
- 28 inside the voting booth. A copy of the full text shall be
- 29 included with any absentee ballots.
- 30 Sec. 23. NEW SECTION. 49.47A Public measures -
- 31 notification.
- 32 For a public measure appearing on a ballot in the month of
- 33 March or September, the entity requesting the public measure
- 34 shall mail notification of the election to each household that
- 35 includes a registered voter eligible to vote on the public

- 1 measure not later than twenty days before the election. 2 notification shall include the date of the election, the hours 3 during which the polls will be open, and information on finding 4 the voter's polling place, including the internet site and 5 telephone number of the county commissioner of elections and 6 the internet site of the state commissioner of elections. Section 49.53, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended 8 to read as follows: The commissioner shall not less than four nor more than 10 twenty days before the day of each election, except those for 11 which different publication requirements are prescribed by law, 12 publish notice of the election. The notice shall contain a 13 facsimile of the portion of the ballot containing the first 14 rotation as prescribed by section 49.31, subsection 2, and 15 shall show list the names of all candidates or nominees and the 16 office each seeks, and all public questions, to be voted upon 17 at the election. The sample ballot published as a part of the 18 notice may at the discretion of the commissioner be reduced in 19 size relative to the actual ballot but such reduction shall 20 not cause upper case letters appearing in candidates' names or 21 in summaries of public measures on the published sample ballot 22 to be less than nine point type. The notice shall also state 23 the date of the election, the hours the polls will be open, 24 that each voter is required to provide identification at the 25 polling place before the voter can receive and cast a ballot, 26 the location of each polling place at which voting is to occur 27 in the election, and the names of the precincts voting at each 28 polling place, but the statement need not set forth any fact 29 which is apparent from the portion of the ballot appearing as 30 a part of the same notice. The notice shall include the full 31 text of all public measures to be voted upon at the election. 32 The notice may contain one or more facsimiles of the portion 33 of the ballot containing the first rotation as prescribed by 34 section 49.31, subsection 2.
- 35 Sec. 25. Section 49.57, subsection 6, Code 2021, is amended

- 1 to read as follows:
- A portion of the ballot shall include the words "Official
- 3 ballot", the unique identification number or name assigned by
- 4 the commissioner to the ballot style, the date of the election,
- 5 and the impression or likeness of the county seal of the county
- 6 of the commissioner who has caused the ballot to be printed
- 7 pursuant to section 49.51.
- 8 Sec. 26. Section 49.58, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
- 9 to read as follows:
- 10 1. If any candidate nominated by a political party,
- 11 as defined in section 43.2, for the office of senator or
- 12 representative in the Congress of the United States, governor,
- 13 attorney general, or senator or representative in the general
- 14 assembly dies during the period beginning on the eighty-eighth
- 15 eighty-first day and ending at the time the polls close on the
- 16 last day before of the general election, or if any candidate
- 17 so nominated for the office of county supervisor dies during
- 18 the period beginning on the seventy-third seventy-fourth day
- 19 and ending at the time the polls close on the last day before
- 20 of the general election, the vote cast at the general election
- 21 for that office shall not be canvassed as would otherwise be
- 22 required by chapter 50. Instead, a special election shall be
- 23 held on the first Tuesday after the second Monday in December,
- 24 for the purpose of electing a person to fill that office.
- Sec. 27. Section 49.75, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 26 follows:
- 27 49.75 Oath.
- 28 Before opening the polls, each of the board members shall
- 29 take the following oath:
- 30 I, A. B., do solemnly swear or affirm that I will
- 31 impartially, and to the best of my knowledge and ability,
- 32 perform the duties of precinct election official of this
- 33 election, and will studiously endeavor to prevent fraud,
- 34 deceit, and abuse in conducting the election.
- 35 I understand that as a precinct election official, I have

- 1 access to certain information that is considered confidential
- 2 and is protected under Code chapters 22, 39A, 48A, and 715C.
- 3 Due to this protected status, I agree to only release this
- 4 information in accordance with Iowa law.
- 5 Additionally, I understand that the prohibition on sharing
- 6 confidential information extends before and after the hours
- 7 that my assigned polling place is open.
- 8 Sec. 28. Section 49.78, subsection 4, Code 2021, is amended
- 9 to read as follows:
- 10 4. A person who is registered to vote but is unable
- 11 to present a form of identification under subsection 2 or
- 12 3 may establish identity and residency in the precinct by
- 13 written oath of a person who is also registered to vote in
- 14 the precinct. Before signing an oath under this subsection,
- 15 the attesting registered voter shall present to the precinct
- 16 election official proof of the voter's identity as provided
- 17 in subsection 2 or 3. The attesting registered voter's oath
- 18 shall attest to the stated identity of the person wishing to
- 19 vote and that the person is a current resident of the precinct.
- 20 The oath must be signed by the attesting registered voter in
- 21 the presence of the appropriate precinct election official.
- 22 A registered voter who has signed two oaths on election day
- 23 attesting to a person's identity and residency as provided in
- 24 this subsection is prohibited from signing any further oaths as
- 25 provided in this subsection on that day.
- Sec. 29. Section 49A.6, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 27 follows:
- 28 49A.6 Certification sample ballot.
- 29 The state commissioner of elections shall, not less than
- 30 sixty-nine sixty-three days preceding any election at which a
- 31 constitutional amendment or public measure is to be submitted
- 32 to a vote of the entire people of the state, transmit to the
- 33 county commissioner of elections of each county a certified
- 34 copy of the amendment or measure and a sample of the ballot to
- 35 be used in such cases, prepared in accordance with law.

- 1 Sec. 30. Section 50.11, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended 2 to read as follows:
- 3 1. When the canvass is completed one of the precinct
- 4 election officials shall publicly announce the total number of
- 5 votes received by each of the persons voted for, the office for
- 6 which the person is designated, as announced by the designated
- 7 tally keepers, and the number of votes for, and the number of
- 8 votes against, any proposition which shall have been submitted
- 9 to a vote of the people. A precinct election official shall
- 10 may, at the request of the commissioner who is conducting
- 11 the election, communicate the election results by telephone
- 12 or and shall deliver the election results in person pursuant
- 13 to section 50.14 to the commissioner who is conducting the
- 14 election immediately upon completion of the canvass.
- 15 Sec. 31. Section 50.12, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 16 follows:
- 17 50.12 Return and preservation of ballots.
- 18 Immediately after making the proclamation, and before
- 19 separating, the board members of each precinct in which votes
- 20 have been received by paper ballot shall enclose in an envelope
- 21 or other container all ballots which have been counted by them,
- 22 except those endorsed "Rejected as double", "Defective", or
- 23 "Objected to", and securely seal the envelope. The signatures
- 24 of all board members of the precinct shall be placed across
- 25 the seal or the opening of the container so that it cannot
- 26 be opened without breaking the seal. The precinct election
- 27 officials, or a precinct election official not delivering
- 28 election results in person pursuant to section 50.14, shall
- 29 return all the ballots to the commissioner on the night of the
- 30 election, who and the commissioner shall carefully preserve
- 31 them for six months. Ballots from elections for federal
- 32 offices shall be preserved for twenty-two months. The sealed
- 33 packages containing voted ballots shall be opened only for
- 34 an official recount authorized by section 50.48, 50.49, or
- 35 50.50, for an election contest held pursuant to chapters 57

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- 1 through 62, to conduct an audit pursuant to section 50.51, or
- 2 to destroy the ballots pursuant to section 50.19.
- 3 Sec. 32. NEW SECTION. 50.14 Return of results.
- 4 When election results are delivered in person to the
- 5 commissioner who is conducting the election, the printed
- 6 results and memory device of the voting equipment shall be
- 7 returned to the commissioner on election night by two precinct
- 8 election officials who shall be of different political parties
- 9 in the case of a partisan election, or by a person designated
- 10 by the commissioner, including but not limited to a state or
- 11 local law enforcement officer. The printed results and memory
- 12 device shall be returned in a securely sealed envelope with the
- 13 signatures of all board members of the precinct placed across
- 14 the seal so that the envelope cannot be opened without breaking
- 15 the seal.
- 16 Sec. 33. Section 50.17, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 17 follows:
- 18 50.17 Return of election register.
- 19 The precinct election register prepared for each election,
- 20 together with the ballots to be returned pursuant to section
- 21 50.12, if any, and the signed and attested tally list, shall be
- 22 delivered to the commissioner by one of the precinct election
- 23 officials by noon of the day following the election who does
- 24 not deliver the election results in person pursuant to section
- 25 50.14.
- Sec. 34. Section 50.23, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 27 follows:
- 28 50.23 Messengers for missing tally lists.
- 29 The commissioner shall send messengers for all tally lists
- 30 not received in the commissioner's office by noon of the day
- 31 following the election on the night of the election. The
- 32 expense of securing such tally lists shall be paid by the
- 33 county.
- 34 Sec. 35. Section 50.24, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
- 35 to read as follows:

- 1 2. Upon convening, the board shall open and canvass the
- 2 tally lists and shall prepare abstracts stating the number of
- 3 votes cast in the county, or in that portion of the county
- 4 in which the election was held, for each office and on each
- 5 question on the ballot for the election. The board shall
- 6 contact the chairperson of the special precinct board before
- 7 adjourning and include in the canvass any write-in votes
- 8 tallied and recorded by the special precinct board or any
- 9 absentee ballots which were received after the polls closed in
- 10 accordance with section 53.17 and which were canvassed by the
- 11 special precinct board after election day. The abstract shall
- 12 further indicate the name of each person who received votes for
- 13 each office on the ballot, and the number of votes each person
- 14 named received for that office, and the number of votes for and
- 15 against each question submitted to the voters at the election.
- 16 The votes of all write-in candidates who each received less
- 17 than five percent of the votes cast for an office or who
- 18 each received fewer than ten votes and was not determined to
- 19 be elected shall be reported collectively under the heading
- 20 "scattering".
- 21 Sec. 36. Section 50.51, subsection 5, Code 2021, is amended
- 22 to read as follows:
- 23 5. In advance of any all other elections, the state
- 24 commissioner may shall order an audit of the election in the
- 25 manner provided in this section.
- Sec. 37. Section 53.17A, Code 2021, is amended by adding the
- 27 following new subsection:
- NEW SUBSECTION. 4. The state commissioner shall by February
- 29 26, 2024, include on the state commissioner's internet site
- 30 an application through which a voter can track the voter's
- 31 absentee ballot request form and absentee ballot. The
- 32 application shall provide all of the following information:
- 33 a. Whether the voter returned a ballot in person, by mail,
- 34 or by voting in person at a satellite location.
- 35 b. The date the absentee ballot request form was received by

- 1 the county commissioner.
- 2 c. The date the absentee ballot was mailed or given to the 3 voter.
- 4 d. The date the absentee ballot was received by the county
- 5 commissioner.
- 6 e. The date the county commissioner opened the outer
- 7 envelope.
- 8 f. Whether there is a problem with the absentee ballot
- 9 request form or absentee ballot that requires correction by the
- 10 voter, along with instructions for the voter to contact the
- 11 county commissioner as soon as possible to resolve the issue.
- 12 Sec. 38. Section 53.37, subsection 2, Code 2021, is amended
- 13 to read as follows:
- 14 2. The term "armed forces of the United States", as used in
- 15 this subchapter, shall mean the army, navy, marine corps, coast
- 16 guard, and air force, and space force of the United States.
- 17 Sec. 39. Section 53.49, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 18 follows:
- 19 53.49 Applicable to armed forces and other citizens.
- 20 The provisions of this subchapter as to absent voting shall
- 21 apply only to absent voters in the armed forces of the United
- 22 States as defined for the purpose of absentee voting in section
- 23 53.37. The provisions of sections 53.1 through 53.34 53.33
- 24 shall apply to all other voters not members of the armed forces
- 25 of the United States.
- Sec. 40. Section 54.9, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 27 follows:
- 28 54.9 Compensation.
- 29 The electors shall each receive a compensation of
- 30 five dollars one-half of the federal general services
- 31 administration's per diem rate for the relevant date and
- 32 location for every day's attendance, and the same mileage as
- 33 members of the general assembly which shall be paid from funds
- 34 not otherwise appropriated from the general fund of the state.
- 35 Sec. 41. Section 99F.7, subsection 11, paragraph a, Code

- 1 2021, is amended to read as follows:
- 2 a. A license to conduct gambling games in a county shall
- 3 be issued only if the county electorate approves the conduct
- 4 of the gambling games as provided in this subsection. The
- 5 board of supervisors, upon receipt of a valid petition meeting
- 6 the requirements of section 331.306, and subject to the
- 7 requirements of paragraph "e", shall direct the commissioner of
- 8 elections to submit to the registered voters of the county a
- 9 proposition to approve or disapprove the conduct of gambling
- 10 games in the county. The proposition shall be submitted at an
- 11 election held on a date specified in section 39.2, subsection
- 12 4, paragraph "a". To be submitted at a general election, the
- 13 petition must be received by the board of supervisors at least
- 14 five working days before the last day for candidates for county
- 15 offices to file nomination papers for the general election
- 16 pursuant to section 44.4. If a majority of the county voters
- 17 voting on the proposition favor the conduct of gambling games,
- 18 the commission may issue one or more licenses as provided in
- 19 this chapter. If a majority of the county voters voting on
- 20 the proposition do not favor the conduct of gambling games, a
- 21 license to conduct gambling games in the county shall not be
- 22 issued.
- Sec. 42. Section 277.4, subsection 4, Code 2021, is amended
- 24 to read as follows:
- 25 4. Any person on whose behalf nomination petitions have
- 26 been filed under this section may withdraw as a candidate by
- 27 filing a signed statement to that effect with the secretary at
- 28 any time prior to 5:00 p.m. on the thirty-fifth day before the
- 29 election consistent with section 44.9, subsection 5.
- 30 Sec. 43. Section 331.552, subsection 4, Code 2021, is
- 31 amended to read as follows:
- 32 4. a. Keep the official county seal provided by the county.
- 33 The official seal shall be an impression seal on the face of
- 34 which shall appear the name of the county, the word "county",
- 35 which may be abbreviated, and the word "Iowa". A county shall

- 1 have only one official county seal.
- 2 b. Notwithstanding paragraph "a", the county commissioner
- 3 of elections may use a facsimile of the official county seal
- 4 or a modified facsimile of the official county seal for the
- 5 purposes of election duties set forth in sections 43.36 and
- 6 49.51, and section 49.57, subsection 6. If modified, the
- 7 county seal shall contain the name of the county, the word
- 8 "county", which may be abbreviated, the word "auditor", which
- 9 may be abbreviated, and the word "Iowa".
- 10 Sec. 44. Section 347.25, subsection 1, Code 2021, is amended
- 11 to read as follows:
- 12 1. The election of hospital trustees whose offices are
- 13 established by this chapter or chapter 145A or 347A shall
- 14 take place at the general election on ballots which shall
- 15 not reflect a nominee's political affiliation. Nomination
- 16 shall be made by petition in accordance with chapter 45. The
- 17 petition form shall be furnished by the county commissioner
- 18 of elections, shall be signed by fifty eligible electors of
- 19 the county, and shall be filed with the county commissioner
- 20 of elections at least sixty-nine days before the date of
- 21 the election. A plurality is sufficient to elect hospital
- 22 trustees.
- 23 Sec. 45. Section 376.5, Code 2021, is amended to read as
- 24 follows:
- 25 376.5 Publication of ballot.
- 26 Notice containing a copy of the ballot for each regular,
- 27 special, primary, or runoff city election must shall be
- 28 published by the county commissioner of elections as provided
- 29 in section 362.3, except that notice of a regular, primary, or
- 30 runoff election may be published not less than four days before
- 31 the date of the election. The published notice must contain
- 32 list the names of all candidates, and may not contain any party
- 33 designations. The published notice must contain include any
- 34 question to be submitted to the voters. The notice may contain
- 35 one or more facsimiles of the portion of the ballot containing

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- 1 the first arrangement of candidates as prescribed by section
- 2 49.31, subsection 2.
- 3 Sec. 46. REPEAL. Sections 43.80, 49A.10, 49A.11, and 53.34,
- 4 Code 2021, are repealed.
- 5 Sec. 47. REPEAL. 2017 Iowa Acts, chapter 155, section 1,
- 6 is repealed.
- 7 Sec. 48. EFFECTIVE DATE.
- 8 l. Except as otherwise provided, this Act, being deemed of
- 9 immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.
- 10 2. The following take effect January 1, 2022:
- 11 a. The section of this Act amending section 43.11,
- 12 subsection 1.
- b. The section of this Act amending section 43.16,
- 14 subsection 2, paragraph "b".
- 15 c. The section of this Act amending section 43.24,
- 16 subsection 1, paragraph "b", subparagraph (2).
- d. The section of this Act amending section 43.78,
- 18 subsection 2.
- 19 e. The section of this Act amending section 43.79.
- 20 f. The section of this Act amending section 44.4, subsection
- 21 2, paragraph "a", subparagraphs (1) and (2).
- g. The section of this Act amending section 44.9,
- 23 subsections 1 and 2.
- 24 h. The section of this Act amending section 44.11.
- i. The section of this Act amending section 49.58,
- 26 subsection 1.
- j. The section of this Act amending section 50.51,
- 28 subsection 5.